



200.

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin.

The Birth of Christ.

The Shepherds worship Christ.

The Wife Men's Offering.

A COPY of VERSES, humbly presented to all my worthy MASTERS and MISTRESSES, Of Spur-Alley and Bedford-Bury Ward, in the Parish of St. Martin in the Fields, By JOHN YOUNG, (*Ink-Maker*) Beadle and Bellman, for the Year 1800. No. 2, CHARLES-COURT, near the STAR and GARTER, ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

PROLOGUE.

LADIES and Gentlemen once more give Ear,  
And let your Goodness, as before, appear;  
Custom requires this Tribute to be paid,  
And as I know your Kindness—Who's afraid?  
For Favors oft repeated, Thanks are due—  
A grateful Heart must please, tho' nothing new.

On St. MICHAEL.

WITH Pow'r great St. Michael was endow'd,  
And therefore proud Satan he overthrow'd;  
With the same Might we always strengthen'd are,  
When on the Lord we cast alone our Care:  
Thus we should learn, with Michael, to subdue  
The great Attempts of the insidious Foe:  
Whence Michael found this Help we all may see—  
The self same Lord will our Deliverer be.

On St. LUKE.

THE dark dull Shade of Ev'ning swiftly flies,  
The happy Morn that does commemorate  
The best Evangelist, St. Luke, whose Praise  
Is in the Gospel 'till the last of Days;  
Who, having run his glorious Race, at last  
Had on his Head a Crown of Glory plac'd.

On St. ANDREW.

ST. Andrew strove all Persons to reclaim,  
To make them Godly was his only Aim;  
Our Saviour's Doctrine he did firmly preach,  
And with all pious Zeal his Precepts teach:  
When him with Envy to the Cross they ty'd,  
He then taught love, and their Wrath deny'd:  
With Pleasure for his Master lost his Breath,  
And freely till a Sacrifice to Death.

On St. THOMAS.

ST. Thomas thought the Apostles did deceive,  
And Christ's Resurrection he did not believe:  
Blest Consecration, soon the Lord on high  
Appear'd, his unjust Doubts to satisfy:  
Convinced, he preach'd his holy Master's Laws,  
And suffer'd boldly for the glorious Cause—  
Preaching Repentance to a sinful Land,  
Was murder'd by their cruel King's Command.

On CHRISTMAS EVE.

MY pretty Maids, don't say you had not Warning,  
For now I bid you rise betimes in the Morning:  
I believe the Cause you know as well as me—  
To-morrow is our Lord's Nativity;  
Then let your Windows with green Bays be grac'd,  
And ev'ry Thing in proper Order plac'd;  
But the chief Reason I bid you to rise  
Is, that you should get forward with your Pies.

On CHRISTMAS DAY.

YE Sons of mortal Men, behold and see  
Your Lord and Saviour's blest Humility:  
For Him, tho' Lord of all, no Room was made,  
Born in a Stable, in a Manger laid;  
Most strange to think, the Conqueror of Death  
Should in a Stable draw his infant Breath;  
Then let's be joyful, for the Angels they  
Hail'd in the Dawn of this auspicious Day.

On St. STEPHEN.

IN vain St. Stephen spent his pious Breath,  
For all his Words they drag'd him forth to Death:  
And by vile Stones he was of Life bereav'd,  
But was immediately in Heav'n receiv'd.  
His Saviour stood his mighty Pains to view,  
And see if frether Torments would ensue.  
Thus did this blessed Martyr suffer Death,  
And gave his Soul to Him who gave him Breath.

On St. JOHN.

THE blest St. John, Half-brother to our Lord,  
Was so lov'd, he gave his sacred Word,  
That by the Pow'r of Man he should not fall,  
Although the others must be Martyrs all;  
Which came to pass, he 'scap'd the Tyrants Threat,  
Though in the boiling Cauldron he was set,  
And when he had exhausted all his Rage,  
He in Retirement dy'd, advanc'd in Age.

On INNOCENTS DAY.

HOW dire and dreadful must it be to hear  
The Cries of Parents for their Children dear;  
Torn from their Breasts by the Destroyers Hand,  
And Blood, like Water, shed all o'er the Land:  
Ah! Herod, could'st thou think Almighty Pow'r  
Was slow to save his Darling in that Hour?  
Alas! thy Cruelty was vainly spent,  
And serv'd but to increase thy Punishment.

On NEW YEAR'S DAY.

LIFE's but a Span, Experience proves it true;  
Then with the Year let us our Lives renew;  
And fill as fresh Supplies of Grace are given,  
Advance towards Eternity in Heav'n:  
Your Belman also humbly hopes to find  
His Masters generous, and his Mistresses kind:  
Happy the Man, whose every Minute's past,  
As if the present were to be the last.

On TWELFTH DAY.

SEE Lads and Lasses round the Twelfth Cake sit,  
Each in great expectation of a Bit,  
And many a heart looks so rich and fine,  
For I we'll at Night will be well fock'd in Wine.  
Here first the Queen, and there the King does strut,  
Mute his answer, because her Name is slut;  
Who'er will give me but a single slice,  
May call me Knave, your Belman is not nice.

On the KING.

WHILST Britain's King that's truly good & great,  
Serenely calm, amidst the Storms of State,  
With tranquil Great surveys his subjects Tears,  
And makes them Good the chiefest of his Cares;  
Britons themselves should all united be,  
And live as blest and happy as they're free.

On the QUEEN.

ILLUSTRIOUS Comfort of Britannia's King,  
Thy past my mean Abilities to sing  
Thy Excellencies and thy Virtues great,  
Too much for any Muse to over-rate;  
And may thy Almighty Ruler of Heav'n and Earth  
Repay thy Virtues, and reward thy Worth.

To my MASTERS.

MOST worthy Sirs, I give you Homage due,  
Since none deserve my Service more than you;  
For you the coldest Night I leave my Bed;  
For you the greatest Dangers I ne'er dread.  
When Heav'n with Show'rs of Rain does me surround,  
Or when the Snow lies frozen on the Ground,  
I wait my Rounds; and to my Soul give Ease,  
Because I do the best of Masters please.

To my MISTRESSES.

UNITED Hearts do reap such solid Joy,  
No Seeds of Discord can the same destroy;  
Thus does the tender Wife with Duty love  
Her Husband that does faithful to her prove:  
Such Blessings for my Mistresses I crave,  
That loving Wives may faithful Husbands have;  
Knit together in the Bond of Peace,  
Each other may enjoy in perfect Ease.

To the YOUNG MEN.

YOUNG MEN, I pray, with Prudence lend an Ear,  
To these few Lines which I have penned here:  
Fly swift from Vice and wicked Company;  
Alto lewd Women and Adultery.  
Think not of sinful Pleasure and its Joy;  
Such golden Bait they will thy Soul destroy.  
But let thy Days be spent in Uprightness,  
Then may'st thou hope for future Happiness.

To the YOUNG MAIDS.

LET Modesty and prudent Actions shine,  
And make your Persons seem to be divine;  
But not so over nice as to delay,  
And baffle Lovers, and your Marriage Day:  
For those sweet Faces which you now do prize,  
In Time may prove contemptuous to Men's Eyes:  
Wed while you're young, believe me, when you're old,  
Few then will love you better than your Gold.

On CRISPIN.

COME listen, come listen, my merry Men all,  
Come Cobblers sing on to your Last and your Aul;  
While Christmas is passing to comfort each Soul,  
Drink Success to your Trade in a full flowing Bowl;  
Nay, your Patron St. Crispin would join was he here,  
To chorus a Catch o'er a Pot of good Beer.

The BELMAN'S PRAYER.

THOU heavenly Pow'r, whose all-seeing Eye  
Does into Man's most secret Actions pry,  
Look down with Favor on the Church and State,  
Let guardian Angels round our Nation wait.  
May my good Masters be thy special Care,  
And my kind Mistresses thy Blessings share.  
And finally, I wish to all Making  
Good Health, Prosperity, and Peace of Mind.

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CRITICS, have Mercy, spare a Bellman's Rhymes,  
Who writes out in Compliance with the Times;  
There may be Faults, and who from Faults is free?  
Errors like these are of a low Degree:  
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The Circumcision.

Herod's Cruelty.

Christ tempted by Satan in the Wilderness.

The Marriage in Cana.

Joseph's Flight into Egypt.

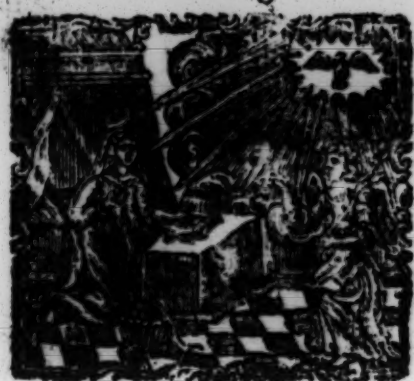
Christ baptized by John the Baptist.

Christ's Entrance into Jerusalem.

Stephen stoned.



The Visitation of the  
Blessed Virgin.



The Shepherds worship  
Christ.



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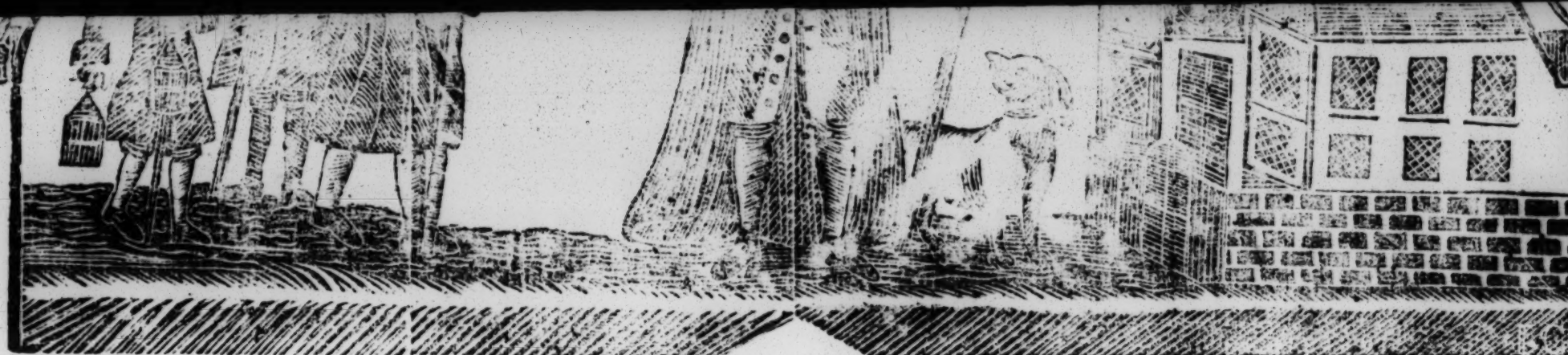
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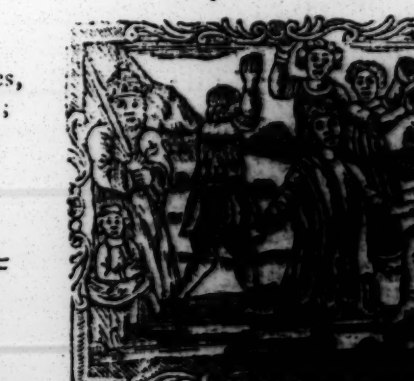
Christ baptized by John the  
Baptist.



Christ's Entrance into  
Jerusalem.



Stephen stoned.



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Where Club Orders, Catalogues, Tradesmen's Cards, and Shop Bills, are neatly printed, at the most reasonable Rates, and on the shortest Notice.

Judas betrays Christ.



Peter denies Christ.



Christ's Crucifixion.



The Resurrection.



The Ascension.

